

Remarks

In view of the following remarks, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claims. Claims 1 - 47 are pending. Claims 3, 18 – 23, and 36 have been amended and claims 2 and 47 have been canceled. Support for the amendments to claims 3, 18 – 23, and 36 is found throughout the specification as filed.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,528,660; WO 97/03959; and U.S. Patent No. 5,273,995 in view of Pavia et al., “Introduction to Organic Laboratory Techniques” (1990) pp. 577-596.

Applicant submits that claim 2 has hereby been cancelled and therefore this rejection has been rendered moot.

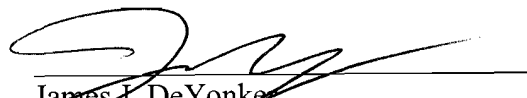
Claims 3, 4 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claim 47 has hereby been cancelled and therefore the rejection has been rendered moot. Claim 3 has been amended and is now dependent on Claim 1, wherein the term “acid” is used. Therefore there is now proper antecedent basis and the Applicant requests that the Examiner withdrawal this rejection.

Claims 18, 20, 21, 23, and 26 were objected to under 37 CFR § 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only and cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. The Examiner also objected to claims 19 – 21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant submits that amended claims 18-22, 23, and 36 have been amended to correct the stated deficiencies. As suggested by the Examiner, claims 19-21 have been rewritten in independent form and incorporate all the limitations of the now cancelled claim 2.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Examiner is urged to allow claims 1, 3-46 to issue. Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees deemed to be due in connection with this Response to Office Action to Deposit Account No. 50-0912.

Respectfully submitted,



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